



U.S. ARMY JOHN F. KENNEDY  
SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER AND SCHOOL

USAJFKSWCS  
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## COLONEL FERDINAND IRIZARRY II Deputy Commander

Col. Ferdinand Irizarry II is the deputy commander of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School based at Fort Bragg, N.C. He was commissioned from Johns Hopkins University as an Infantry officer in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

Irizarry's first assignment was with the 3rd Battalion, 41st Infantry, 2nd Armored Division, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany, where he served in a variety of positions, including rifle platoon leader, scout platoon leader and executive officer.

In 1985, following attendance to the Infantry Officer Advanced Course at the U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga., he was assigned as a platoon trainer at the Infantry School. His next assignment was as commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized) 58th Infantry, 197th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benning.

From 1989 to 1993, he was assigned to the Operations Group, U.S. Army National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. While assigned at NTC, he served as a headquarters company trainer, the assistant S-3 combat trainer, operations officer and chief of the Observation Division.

In August 1993, Irizarry attended the Regional Studies Course and Arabic-Egyptian Language Course at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, with a follow-on assignment as a Civil Affairs officer at the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C. He later served as the S-3 and the executive officer of the battalion, and served as the J-5, Joint Task Force, Provide Promise, Yugoslavia.

In 1996, he was assigned to Land Forces Central Europe, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, Germany, Operation Constant Guard, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Operation Joint Guardian, Kosovo, where he served in a number of positions including: civil-military plans officer in the Civil Military Cooperation Branch; joint plans officer; special assistant to the commander of the Stabilization Force; and chief of the J-9.

From February 2000 to May 2004, he served at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School as the chief of the Civil Affairs/Civil-Military Operations Training and Doctrine Division and later as the director of Special Operations Proponency. His follow-on assignment was as the assistant chief of staff, G-3, U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne).

In August 2006, he was named the commander of the newly formed 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) at Fort Bragg. From August 2008 to August 2010, he served as the executive officer to the Under Secretary of the Army in Washington, D.C., and deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom – Afghanistan. He was named the deputy commander of SWCS in August 2010.

Irizarry's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Service Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab.

Irizarry holds a master's degree in Public Administration, and has been nominated for promotion to the rank of brigadier general.

